

**Village of Hamilton
Municipal Utilities Commission
4:30pm
Regular Meeting of February 7, 2012**

APPROVED MINUTES

PRESENT: President John Basher; Commissioners: Larry Baker, Bob Holcomb, and Rob Gustafson; Village Administrator Sean Graham; Treasurer Mary Ann Henderson; Trustee Russ Lura; Line Foreman David Rhyde; Village Clerk Alana Scheckler.

PUBLIC: None

President Basher called meeting to order at 4:31p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A **motion** was made by Commissioner Baker to approve the agenda as presented. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Holcomb and carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting of January 3, 2012: A **motion** was made by Commissioner Holcomb to approve the January 3, 2012, minutes as presented. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Gustafson and carried.

Special Meeting of January 10, 2012: A **motion** was made by Commissioner Holcomb to approve the January 10, 2012, special meeting minutes as presented. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Baker and carried.

PERSONNEL: Line Foreman Rhyde reported an employee at the Powerhouse had a death in his family.

ELECTRIC

New Business

Line Foreman's Report: The crew worked on Wylie Street straightening out cross arms. Seven new poles were set on Utica Street and all services were changed. Line Foreman Rhyde had a meeting with Time Warner Cable regarding internet service at the Airport and the WWTP. Three poles will be set at the Airport to run overhead lines.

Status of Delinquent Accounts: The Commission questioned several accounts.

Delinquent Customer Request: Village Clerk Alana Scheckler explained a past due account owing \$4,300.00 has requested to settle that account for \$3,000.00. After much discussion and the concern over setting a precedent, the Commission is willing to accept the request. A **motion** was made by Commissioner Holcomb to propose a lump sum payment or if that cannot be done to accept installments for a total of \$3,000.00. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Baker and carried. Commissioner Baker wants a written policy statement in place on how future issues like this will be handled.

Accounts to be Written Off: A document was distributed with information on outstanding utility bills that are more than a year old. Trustee Lura made a **motion** to write off \$15,457.94 in bad debt. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Gustafson and carried.

Old Business

Natural Gas Agreement: Administrator Graham, Mayor Miller, Jim Leach, and Commissioner Baker gave a Natural Gas presentation to the Hamilton Club. One question raised was if Natural Gas would be a separate entity. Back in 1962 the Jaycees surveyed the Village residents and more than 95% thought to have Natural Gas would improve Hamilton for its residents. Trustee Lura asked how expenses not covered by the bond would be handled. A start up fund of \$100,000.00 will be created.

Rate Case: Line Foreman Rhyde, Treasurer Henderson, Clerk Scheckler and Frank Radigan have gathered information needed to determine if a rate case is needed. Mr. Radigan will move forward with a minor rate case.

Express Pay Presentation: Tabled.

Solar Panels: Administrator Graham is waiting to hear back from Bill Barry who is trying to locate funds for this project. The new windmill project on Hill Road was briefly discussed.

NERC Audit: Frank Radigan will map out the necessary steps for the Village to take to prepare for this audit.

ION Make-Ready Work: There has been some concern over safety and the piecemeal work being done by ION. Kevin Brocks has been contacted.

WATER

New Business

All hydrants have been numbered. The crew has been collecting information on the hydrants, like water and valve sizes for future upgrades.

Old Business

AT & T Request: Attorney Kevin Brocks is finalizing the contract for AT&T's red line.

SEWER

New Business

Between the Movie Theater and Swank there is a waste water issue. Hamilton Initiative will dig up the alley way and install new sewer lines.

Nevison-Sewer Relief: 7 Mill Street had a leaking pipe to their greenhouse. Village employee Joe Wyman has verified that the water did not pass through the WWTP. Ms. Nevison is asking for relief of \$533.36 in sewer charges. A **motion** was made by Commissioner Gustafson to approve the Nevison sewer relief request of \$533.36. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Holcomb and carried.

Old Business

MRB Draft Report/Chesapeake Bay Limits: WWTP's Dave Jordan and Administrator Graham met with the Coalition last Friday. Chemung County Executive Tom Santuley is suggesting starting litigation against the DEC and EPA.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: Treasurer Henderson distributed the financials to the Commissioners. Electric Fund net profit is \$272,977.00, Water Fund net profit is \$25,842.00, and Sewer Fund net profit is \$52,429.00. A quote was received by Incode for the tax lien process of \$1,238.00.

Bollam, Sheedy, and Torani sent an engagement letter. Treasurer Henderson is recommending accepting the 3yr contract price of \$49,500.00 per year, \$29,000.00 for Village finances and \$20,500.00 for Electric. A **motion** was made by Commissioner Baker to accept Treasurer Henderson's recommendation. The **motion** was seconded by Trustee Lura and carried.

CLAIMS: Commissioner Gustafson reviewed the claims and made a **motion** to pay them. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Baker and carried.

The next meeting will be March 6, 2012 at 4:30pm, at the Village Office.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Holcomb made a **motion** to adjourn. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Gustafson and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:39pm.

Submitted by,
Kim Taranto